

Pilot Mountain State Park



PARK INFORMATION



GPS: 36.341276, -80.462930

Pilot Mountain State Park
1792 Pilot Knob Park Road
Pinnacle, NC 27043

Office: 336-325-2355
pilot.mountain@ncparks.gov



Please visit the North Carolina State Parks website or contact the park office for **the most current information** about seasonal hours, activities, alerts, camping fees, programs, rules and weather.

AT A GLANCE



Established: 1968

Landmark: Pilot Knob, which has served as a navigational landmark for centuries, dating back to the native Saura Indians.

You can find... ravens, which can be spotted soaring above Big Pinnacle.

Trails: 13 trails

- › 1 Kids TRACK trail
- › 27.5 miles of hiking
- › 6.6 miles of horseback riding

Accesses: Mountain Section: Pilot Creek, Corridor.
Yadkin River Section: Bean Shoals, Ivy Bluff, Corridor.



ACTIVITIES

ON THE WATER

Paddling: A 2-mile portion of the Yadkin River flows through the park offering scenic views. The river flows past the Bean Shoals Canal Wall, part of an ambitious project undertaken between 1820 and 1825. View these historic walls along Bean Shoals Canal Trail. There is one canoe access located on Shoals Road.

Fishing: Cast your line to catch smallmouth and spotted bass and catfish. A state fishing license is required and the regulations of the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission are enforced.

CAMPING

42 family campsites

- › Each site has a tent pad, table and grill
- › Two washhouses with hot showers located nearby
- › Sites open: March 15 – November 30

2 paddle-in campsites

- › 0.75 mile downstream from paddle launch on Shoals Road
- › Pit toilet available
- › Reservation required

ROCK CLIMBING

Rocky cliffs offer a challenge to experienced climbers. Climbing is permitted only in designated areas. All climbers must register before beginning a climb. Contact the park office for further information.

PICNICKING

The picnic areas at Pilot Mountain offer a choice of shady dining spots. The picnic area in the mountain section of the park is located near the summit parking lot. Drinking water and restrooms are located nearby.

The covered picnic shelter will accommodate up to 35 people. Use of the picnic shelter is free of charge.

TRAILS

Mountain Section Trails

Grindstone Trail strenuous 3.0 miles
This trail hikes through the woods to the summit. Parking for this trail is available at the park office. The trailhead is across the road from the park office to the right.

Jomeokee Trail moderate 0.8 mile
This trail crosses the gap to the Big Pinnacle, makes a loop around the base and merges into the same trail to return across the gap.

Ledge Spring Trail strenuous 1.0 mile
A very challenging trail with rocks steps. The trail begins at the Grindstone and ends at the Jomeokee Trail. The trail travels along the foot of the cliffs and ledges to the west of the Little Pinnacle. The spring is just a trickle of water, but the walk below the cliffs is beautiful.

Little Pinnacle Overlook easy 0.1 mile

Mountain Trail strenuous 4.3 miles
This trail connects to the Grindstone Trail to complete a 6 mile loop. It starts across the road from the park office. Parking for this trail is at the park office. This trail can also be accessed from the Pinnacle Hotel Road parking lot.

Pilot Creek Trail moderate 3.3 miles
This trail starts at the Pilot Creek trailhead and ends at the family campground, where you can connect to the Grindstone Trail to link to a long loop around the mountain.

TRACK Trail moderate 0.3 mile
This kid-friendly trail follows the Sassafras Trail and offers scenic views of the Pilot Mountain pinnacle and vistas of the surrounding mountains. This trail offers activities for kids.

Yadkin River Section Trails

Bean Shoals Canal Trail easy 0.5 mile
This trail weaves along a railroad trestle, as well as along the ruins of the unfinished Bean Shoals Canal. Note: The railroad track is still active. Use extreme caution when crossing.

Corridor Trail strenuous 6.6 miles
This trail connects the mountain and river sections of the park. It then links into the Yadkin Islands Trail, which continues to the river parking lot. No horses may cross the Yadkin Valley Railroad.

Horne Creek Trail moderate 2.5 miles
This trail begins at the picnic area and meanders along Horne Creek and meets the Bean Shoals Canal Trail along the river. You can make a loop by returning to the picnic area on the park road.

Ivy Bluff Trail moderate 1.3 miles
This trail, beginning at the Ivy Bluff parking lot, has moderate to steep slopes covered with mountain laurel and rhododendron along the south edge of the Yadkin River.

Yadkin Island Trail moderate 1.5 miles
This trail begins at the Hauser Road parking lot and ends at the Yadkin River. Cross the river at your own risk to explore the Islands which are not blazed. Do not attempt to the cross river if you cannot see the bottom.